

SILVERWINGS





“Back to the basics”

Vol. 33, Issue 17

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

April 17, 2009

Weather

 Today High: 77, Low: 55 Partly Cloudy	 Saturday High: 73, Low: 59 Isolated T-storms
 Sunday High: 73, Low: 50 Scattered T-storms	 Monday High: 68, Low: 44 Mostly cloudy

News Briefs

Pharmacy closed
The Columbus AFB Pharmacy will be closed on Friday, April 17, and Monday, April 20 for interior renovations.

Base Stables open house
The base stables will be holding an open house from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. April 18. There will be riding and round pen exhibitions and demonstrations about base horse care and the different breeds of horses. For more information, call 434- 2337.

Boss and Buddy Night tonight
The Columbus Club will host a Boss and Buddy night for enlis-ted members and their supervisors April 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. This event is sponsored by the Columbus AFB Top 3 and Blaze 5/6.

Base Community Council Spring Social
The Base Community Council will hold a spring social on Tuesday, April 21 for members. The informal gathering from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Tapas 509, located at 509 Main Street in downtown Columbus. Hors d'oeuvres will be served with a pay as you go bar. RSVP to the Link at 328-8390.

Track Select
Class 10-01 Track Select will be held at 5 p.m. April 22 at the Columbus Club.

Inside



Feature 10
The Arts and Crafts Center is highlighted in this week's feature.



Photo by Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Maj. Leo Lawson, 14th Communications Squadron commander, speaks at the dedication of the Ground-to-Air Transmitter and Receiver Site in memory of Staff Sgt. Luiz Melendez. Sergeant Melendez was a former 14th CS member who was killed in a helicopter crash in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in February 2006.

14th FTW dedicate GATR site in memory of fallen Airman

Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base paid tribute to a fallen Airman with a dedication ceremony April 9.
The Ground-to-Air Transmitter and Receiver Site was renamed the Melendez

Radio Site in honor of Staff Sgt. Luis Melendez, a former Columbus AFB Airman who was killed in a helicopter crash in support of Operation Enduring Freedom on Feb. 17, 2006.
“We are here today to remember one of our fallen heroes,” said Col. Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing commander at the ceremony. “We will

remember all those who have laid down their lives so we can exercise and enjoy our freedom. For all of us still wearing the uniform today, that is our charge. Let us not forget.”
Sergeant Melendez began his Air Force career in October 1995, where after

See GATR, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				IFF				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (10-01)	5.93 days	-1.20 days	Apr. 22	48th (09-08)	4.04 days	-0.44 days	Apr. 24	49th (09-GB)	1.96 days	.82 days	May 11	T-6	1,564	1,301	15,889
41st (10-02)	2.86 days	-4.49 days	May 13	50th (09-08)	1.34 days	2.37 days	Apr. 24					T-1	542	550	6,095
Graduation speaker: The graduation speaker is Lt. Col. Richard E. “Gene” Smith, Jr., former Vietnam POW.												T-38	458	350	4,563
												IFF	103	108	1,577

Four Words – A Million Possibilities

Anonymous author
“That Guy” Alcohol Prevention Program

This may be the most unconventional advice column you’ve ever read. If you’ve ever been carried home from a bar by your friends, read on. If you’ve ever greeted the suggestion to “open a tab” as an all you can drink challenge, read on. If you’ve ever been the center of attention, because you passed out in the center of the dance floor, definitely read on.

Some lessons are best learned through tough and memorable consequences – those we experience or witness. When it comes to the downside of excessive drinking, that’s definitely the case. Now any man or woman in military service has undoubtedly endured countless lectures, speeches and warnings about binge drinking, drunk driving and other alcohol-induced bad behavior. However, no education I’ve ever experienced drives the point home like four simple words – “Don’t Be That Guy.”

Those, my friends, are words to live by. We’ve all been out on the town and seen That Guy making a jackass of himself (or herself, because girls can definitely be That Guy too). Sometimes we laugh at him, but it ceases to be funny when That Guy wrecks your evening by acting like a meathead, or getting you kicked out of the bar, or starting a fight you have to finish, or ruining your hook-up, or getting arrested, or bleeding in your car, or smashing your TV, or puking on your shoes, or ... well, you get the point.

The beauty of “Don’t Be That Guy” is that it’s open-ended advice – it covers a million possibilities. It’s also not judgmental. It isn’t saying don’t drink, or don’t have a few beers with your buddies, or don’t go out and let loose a little. It simply means don’t overdo it, don’t lose control, don’t

be an idiot.

I’ve seen some That Guy behavior in the Army. But, I’ve also seen it from frat boys, businessmen, the girl next door, and even my relatives (anyone else have a cousin who barfed in the shrimp bowl at a family wedding?). Poor judgment knows no bounds. The trick is to avoid it and learning from others’ mistakes can really help.

What are some reasons not to be That Guy? Here are a few to consider:

- Because teeth look better in your mouth
- Because puking through your nose hurts
- Because STD does not stand for “So Totally Drunk”
- Because insurance doesn’t cover stupidity
- Because “I don’t remember” is not an excuse that holds up in court

Another BIG reason not to be That Guy is because he is often considered “fair game” for ridicule or drunk-shaming. Having a girl throw a beer in your face is a bummer, but in the world of That Guy, you may be getting off easy – especially if you pick the wrong place to pass out. Have you ever seen a dude with one eyebrow shaved off, or duct-taped to a flagpole, or show up to work in the morning with a big [censored by editor] drawn on his face with permanent marker? Try explaining those naked pictures of you on the Internet to your girlfriend, or worse, your mom.

So, if you want to keep your friends, your reputation, your money, your teeth, your dignity, and other stuff you value, do yourself a favor and just Don’t Be That Guy. Words to live by, for sure.

•Editor’s note: the author of this commentary wishes to remain anonymous

Lorenz on Leadership - Today's Airmen

Gen. Stephen R. Lorenz
Commander, Air Education and Training Command

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Recently, I had the distinct honor to attend the Airman’s Coin Ceremony at Lackland AFB. It is always a privilege for me to meet the terrific men and women who train and are trained in what seems like a timeless setting.

That day, the crystal blue sky melted into the field of blue-suited trainees who proudly marched onto the parade field. They were surrounded by thousands of family and friends, all having traveled to Lackland to witness something special. Everyone in attendance sat, buttons busting with pride, eyes straining to catch a glimpse of their son, daughter, brother, sister, husband, wife or friend. The American flag presided, waving prominently on top of the pole.

Like everyone else, I sat at the ceremony marveling at the 745 trainees, ready to become Airmen in the world’s greatest Air Force. For Lackland, this scene replays itself every week, year-round. For trainees that afternoon, however, it was their day, and I felt it as soon as the first flight marched onto the pad. Everyone felt it -- the pride and eager anticipation was written all over their faces; these trainees knew they had accomplished something absolutely amazing.

I was especially proud of these Airmen. They decided to join something bigger than themselves and defend our nation and its ideals. Within months, many of these Airmen will be sent forward into harm’s way. I have no doubt that they will succeed. You see, our Airmen, non-commissioned officers and senior NCOs are the finest in the world and it doesn’t happen by accident. Our recruiters fill our ranks with members from all walks of life and our training and education systems are second to none. We are a reflection of American society, and I wouldn’t have it any other way.

Basic military training is a terrific example of our Air Force’s pursuit of excellence. The training builds upon the foundation influenced by mothers, fathers, grandparents and teachers across the nation, emphasizing the Air Force Core Values: integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. It transforms young Americans into members of the Air Force family, a motivated team of warrior Airmen.

Why is our enlisted force the best? In a single word: trust. When an NCO from security forces tells me that the base is secure, I know without a doubt that all is safe. Before flying, I always review the forms documenting maintenance actions on that aircraft. The SNCO’s signature at the bottom of the forms is all I need to see to have complete confidence in the safety of that airplane. I liken it to the cell phone commercial many of you have probably seen on television. Although there may be a single man or woman standing in front, he or she speaks with the voice of thousands standing behind. A successful

team is one that works together, enabled and empowered by trust.

Where does the trust come from? It starts with our integrity, which is tested daily and without which a team cannot operate successfully. Basic training reinforces it with the discipline, initiative and competency essential to defend our nation and its ideals. Technical training continues the theme and is the next journey for these Airmen where they will develop respective core competencies that fit into the overall Air Force machine. Later, these Airmen will become NCOs and SNCOs and the Air Force will depend on them to make difficult decisions -- the “tough calls” that years of experience and training enable them to make. The Air Force machine relies on them, trusts them, to make the right call.



Slaydon sustained extensive injuries when a bomb exploded two feet away from him. As Matt later said during his Purple Heart ceremony, “It’s a rare thing for a person to find a job and career that gave them great, great joy. Every day I loved coming to work, and after a short period of time, I gained a great sense of purpose from what I did. I know that those days are coming to an end for me ... I think probably what I’ll miss the most is this Air Force family and this great sense of purpose.”

Sergeant Slaydon gets it. All tasks have purpose and even the least glamorous are mission essential. We must all follow his lead and embrace our function, our purpose.

On our Air Force team, everyone’s ability to perform their function is what builds trust and makes the machine run so smoothly. Ultimately, we all share the same goal -- the defense of our nation and its ideals. That’s the common denominator, regardless of rank, where trust and mutual respect are paramount. At every base, in every shop and office, Air Force leadership, both officer and enlisted, consistently sets the example. We are all role models and always on the job. Our Airmen live up to these expectations every day.

Back at Lackland, the Coin Ceremony concluded with the Airman’s Creed. All 745 spoke with a single voice, “I am an American Airman. I am a warrior. I have answered my nation’s call.” It was absolutely captivating; the crowd hung on every word. As the newly coined Airmen finished the creed, their voices rose in unison for the last line, “... And I will not fail!”

The last words echoed across the field and stayed with me. I knew each of the new Airmen stood that afternoon wondering if they were ready, eager to be tested. In reality, they had just passed their first big test with flying colors. Other tests and challenges will follow, but these new Airmen will face their challenges as members of the Air Force team. I have unwavering trust in our team -- together we will not fail!

AF club essay contest could win you \$1,000 scholarship

Pam Wickham
14th Force Support Squadron Marketing

Air Force club members and their family members who attend college are eligible to receive education/tuition assistance through the Air Force club scholarship essay contest. Twenty-five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded.

To enter, write and submit an essay of 500 words or less on the topic: “The High Cost of Freedom”. Essays exceeding 500 words (excluding title) will be disqualified. Essays must be typed in Microsoft Word 12-point Arial or times new

roman font, single-spaced, with double-spacing between paragraphs, one-inch top and bottom margins and 1.25- inch left and right margins submitted on a CD.

Essay package must include the CD containing essay with participant’s name, date and word count, entry form, and current college/university acceptance letter for new students or official transcripts for those students already enrolled. Submit your entry to the Force Support Squadron Commander by July 1, 2009. Only one essay per eligible person will be accepted.

Current Air Force club members and their family mem-

bers (e.g. spouse, son, daughter, stepson, and stepdaughter) who have been accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry during the fall of 2009 term as a part-time or full-time student are eligible. Grandchildren who are dependents of the club members are also eligible.

Entry forms are available at the Columbus Club and the education center or you can visit the Air Force clubs website at www.afclubs.net. Entry forms will be available online after May 1.

For more information, call the FSS marketing office at 434-2337.

A number of events and activities available for families

Base stables open house

In an effort to promote equine awareness, the base stables are hosting an open house from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. There will be riding and round pen exhibitions and demonstrations about base horse care and the different breeds of horses. For more info, call 434-2337.

Summer day camp registration

The youth center’s school age program is taking registrations for summer day camp for school age children. A \$10 deposit is required for each week to hold a space for your child. Cost is based on total family income and all meals, entrance fees, supplies, etc. are included in the cost. There are limited spaces available. For more information, call 434-2504.

Disney summer trip

The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to Disney World in Orlando, Fla. July 19 to 25. The bus tour price per seat is \$147 per person round trip and includes shuttle to and from Disney World for five days. The hotel is the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort in Lake Buena Vista and each room has two queen beds and will sleep four to six people. Price for the week per family is \$675. The military member receives a free five day hopper with water park pass while each companion ticket up to 60-percent off. There are only 30 seats available on the bus. A layaway plan is available but last payment must be made by June 19. For more information, call 434-2507.

Memphis in May

The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip May 16 to 17. Cost is \$150 per person, double occupancy, \$135 per person with three to a room or \$125 per person with four to a room. Cost includes transportation, lodging with breakfast included and entry both days. Departing at 8 a.m. Saturday and return-

ing at 9 p.m. Sunday. Must have at least 16 registered by May 2 to offer.

British soccer

The youth center is hosting a British soccer camp June 1 to 5. This program is open to ages 3 to 18. Register online at www.challenger-sports.com. Costs vary according to age and sessions. For more information, call 434-2504.

Veterinary clinic open clinics

The base veterinary clinic offers an open clinic for your pets annual checkups and rabies shots. Clinics are from 9 a.m. to noon April 29 and April 30. No appointment necessary. For more information, call 434-2281.

Casino trip

The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to Philadelphia, Miss. to visit the Silver Star and Blue Moon Casinos the first Friday of every month. The next trip is May 1. The bus leaves at 6 p.m. from the BX parking lot and leaves Philadelphia at 1 .m. Coat is \$20 per person and includes transportation and \$25 in bonus bets. For more information, call 434-2505.

Texas Holdem tournament

The Columbus Club offers this program starting at 6 p.m. May 9. Cost is \$5 for mbmers and \$10 for nonmembers. Register by noon, May 8 at the Columbus Club. Late sign ups will be placed on a waiting list. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with free hors d’oeuvres and the games begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 434-2490.

Crafts fair and sidewalk sale

The arts and crafts center will host a craft fair and sidewalk sale in front of their building from 8 a.m. to noon May 2. Parents can shop our inventory of moldings, frames, T-shirts,

plaques, craft samples and more while youth will enjoy face painting, kids crafts and games. A new kids craft will be offered every half hour. For more information, call 434-7836.

Home Decor Workshop

The arts and crafts center offers this workshop starting at 5:30 p.m. May 8 to make a large patriotic bear entry stand. Cost is \$20 and includes all supplies. A display of the project can be viewed in the lobby of the arts and crafts center. Register no later than May 4 for this workshop. For more information, call 434-7836.

Tickets available

The information, ticket and travel office has discounted tickets for Disney World, Universal Studios, Dollywood, Sea World, Busch Gardens, Six Flags Over Georgia, the Memphis Zoo, Alabama Adventure, the Dixie Stampede, Geyser Falls, and more. Call 434-2507 for more information.

Pre-Mothers' Day bingo

The youth center offers this program at 6 p.m. May 8 for youth. They will play six games plus a blackout game. Register by May 6 at the youth center. For more information, call 434-2504.

Missoula Children's Theater

The youth center offers this free theatrical arts program for Grades 1 to 12 June 8 to 13. Auditions will be June 8 at Kaye Auditorium. This year’s performance will be “Robinson Crusoe” and held at 3 p.m. June. 13. Up to fifty youth will be needed for the performance. For more information or to register, contact the youth center at 434-2504.

Bench press competition

The fitness center offers this program start-

ing at 4:30 April 20. Free T-shirts give to all competitors. There will be two events - one rep max and max reps. All rules and weight classes will be according to AAU standards. Commanders trophy points will be awarded. For more information, call 434-2772.

Blaze Lunch Bunch at the Columbus Club

Every Wednesday During Lunch

All plates come with one meat, two sides, roll or cornbread, tea or water
\$6.25 for club members
\$7.25 for nonmembers

This week’s menu: **Meat choices:**

Fried Chicken, Homemade Beef Stew, Baked Spaghetti

Sides:

Macaroni & Cheese, Steamed Rice and Gravy, Turnip Greens, Corn on the Cob, Side Salad with Ranch Dressing

For More Information, Call Ext. 2490

Lunch Bunch Special - \$6.95
Macaroni & Cheese, Steamed Rice and Gravy, Turnip Greens, Corn on the Cob Side Salad with Ranch Dressing

Desserts:

\$2.95 each
Chocolate Peanut Butter Pie, Tiramisu Cake, Jumbo Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

Moving beyond the F-22

WASHINGTON — This op-ed piece appeared in the Washington Post on April 13, written by Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz.

The debate over whether to continue production of the F-22 Raptor has been one of the most politically charged and controversial budget issues in recent memory, spawning lobbying efforts that include contractor-sponsored newspaper ads and letter-writing campaigns.

The F-22 is, unquestionably, the most capable fighter in our military inventory. Its advantages include stealth and speed; while optimized for air-to-air combat, it also has a ground-attack capability.

We assessed the issue from many angles, taking into account competing strategic priorities and complementary programs and alternatives, all balanced within the context of available resources.

We are often asked, 'How many F-22s does the Air Force need?' The answer, of course, depends on what we are being asked to do. When the program began, late in the Cold War, it was estimated that 740 would be needed. Since then, the Defense Department has constantly reassessed how many major combat operations we might be challenged to conduct, where such conflicts might arise, whether or how much they might overlap, what are the strategies and capabilities of potential opponents, and U.S. objectives.

These assessments have concluded that, over time, a progressively more sophisticated mix of aircraft, weapons and networking capabilities will enable us to produce needed combat power with fewer platforms. As requirements for fighter inventories have declined and F-22 program costs have risen, the department imposed a funding cap and in December 2004 approved a program of 183 aircraft.

Based on different warfighting assumptions,

The F-22 is, unquestionably, the most capable fighter in our military inventory. Its advantages include stealth and speed; while optimized for air-to-air combat, it also has a ground-attack capability.

the Air Force previously drew a different conclusion: that 381 aircraft would be required for a low-risk force of F-22s. We revisited this conclusion after arriving in office last summer and concluded that 243 aircraft would be a moderate-risk force. Since then, additional factors have arisen.

First, based on warfighting experience over the past several years and judgments about future threats, the Defense Department is revisiting the scenarios on which the Air Force based its assessment. Second, purchasing an additional 60 aircraft to get to a total number of 243 would create an unfunded \$13 billion bill just as defense budgets are becoming more constrained.

This decision has increasingly become a zero-sum game. Within a fixed Air Force and overall Defense Department budget, our challenge is to decide among many competing needs. Buying more F-22s means doing less of something else. In addition to air superiority, the Air Force provides a number of other capabilities critical to joint operations for which joint warfighters have increasing needs. These include intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; command and control; and related needs in the space and cyber domains. We are also repairing years of institutional neglect of our nuclear forces, rebuilding the acquisition



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Kevin J. Gruenwald

F-22 Raptors on a training mission.

workforce and taking steps to improve Air Force capabilities for irregular warfare.

It was also prudent to consider future F-22 procurement during the broader review of President Obama's fiscal 2010 defense budget, rather than as an isolated decision. During this review, we assessed both the Air Force and Defense Department's broader road maps for tactical air forces, specifically the relationship between the F-22 and the multi-role F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, which is in the early stages of production.

The F-22 and F-35 will work together in the coming years. Each is optimized for its respective air-to-air and air-to-ground role, but both have multi-role capability, and future upgrades to the F-22 fleet are already planned. We considered whether F-22 production should be extended as insurance while the F-35 program grows to full production. Analysis showed that overlapping F-22 and F-35 production would not only be expensive but that while the F-35

may still experience some growing pains, there is little risk of a catastrophic failure in its production line.

Much rides on the F-35's success, and it is critical to keep the Joint Strike Fighter on schedule and on cost. This is the time to make the transition from F-22 to F-35 production. Within the next few years, we will begin work on the sixth-generation capabilities necessary for future air dominance.

We support the final four F-22s proposed in the fiscal 2009 supplemental request, as this will aid the long-term viability of the F-22 fleet. But the time has come to close out production. That is why we do not recommend that F-22s be included in the fiscal 2010 defense budget.

Make no mistake. Air dominance remains an essential capability for joint warfighting. The F-22 is a vital tool in the military's arsenal and will remain in our inventory for decades to come. But the time has come to move on.



Visit www.columbus.af.mil to learn about Columbus AFB agencies and other important information.



Base News

New Shoppette Hours

Effective 24 April 2009, the Shoppette will have the following changes in their hours of operation. On Friday close at 10 p.m., Saturday open at 8 a.m., close at 10 p.m., Sunday open at 8 a.m. and close at 9 p.m.

Education Counseling Hours

Education counseling (CCAF, Bachelor's/Master's programs, Tuition Assistance, etc.) is now available Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Please contact Edward Hodge at 434-2562 to schedule.

Drug Education for Youth

The DEFY program promotes team building, goal setting, substance abuse, resistance skills and increases self-confidence for youth. This is a free program for dependents of active duty members, DOD civilians, retirees and contract employees' ages 9 to 12 years old. DEFY Summer Leadership Camp is scheduled for June 17-26 and will be held at the Columbus AFB Chapel Annex. Applications are available at the Chapel, Youth Center and Drug Demand Testing Office, located in the 14th Medical Group building. Deadline for application is May 30. For more information please call 434-2353 or 434-2133.

Magnet School Lotteries soon

This fall, the Columbus Municipal School District will begin the second year of magnet schools; and as in last year, in order to be assigned to the theme of choice, parents and students must enter the lottery. School choice forms are available via several methods; they will be sent home with current CMSD students, at the CMSD Central Services Office on McArthur Drive, or at the CAFB School Liaison Office located in building 730, room 202A. CMSD officials urge parents to get their children signed up for the lottery early to ensure their children are placed in their first choice. In the past, upwards of 97 percent of students receive their first choice. The deadline for submitting lottery applications is today at 4 p.m. The lottery for the 2009-10 school year will be conducted on April 17th. Additional information is available on the CMSD Website at www.columbuscityschools.org or you may contact the CAFB School Liaison at 434-2792.

Mississippi State University summer camps

Mississippi State University offers a wide

variety of Summer Camps and Workshops for our young folks. The areas include: Soccer, Natural Resources, Transportation Institute, and Women in Action; other areas are being considered and will be added as they are approved. Several of the activities are Residential Camps and many are Day Camps. For a complete rundown, view the MSU 2009 Summer Camp website at: <http://www.admissions.msstate.edu/events/summercamps/camplistsings.php> or contact the School Liaison at 434-2792.

Operation Purple Summer Camps

The National Military Family Association is now accepting applications for its popular Operation Purple Summer Camps. Each camp is "purple" and open to children of any uniformed service member, active duty or reserve component. Apply online at <http://www.operationpurple.org/>. This year the National Military Family Association will host more than 9,000 military children at Operation Purple camps in 62 locations in 37 states and territories: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, the Virgin Islands, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Information about specific camp locations is available at <http://www.operationpurple.org/>. Registration will be open until midnight EDT April 20. Priority is given to military children with a parent deployed or deploying anytime between September 2008 and December 2009 and have not had the opportunity to attend an Operation Purple camp in the past. Camps are free to all participants' thanks to support from the Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation.

Gas Mask Fit Test

Gas Mask Fit Testing will now be by appointment only. Appointments will be taken Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Exceptions to appointment times will be made for deployers only. For more information, call Bioenvironmental Engineering at 434-2286 or 434-2226.

Lifeguard summer hire requirements

Columbus Air Force Base is currently soliciting applicants to be life guards at the base pool for this summer. To qualify, appli-

cants must meet the criteria below and be a full time student:

1. Must possess a current and valid nationally recognized lifeguard certification covering lifesaving and water rescue methods, skills, and procedures.
2. Must possess a current and valid nationally recognized basic first aid certification.
3. Must possess a current and valid nationally recognized CPR certification which includes adult, child, and infant procedures.
4. Position requires pre-employment screening for swimming ability, rescue skills and CPR skills.

If you would like to apply, please contact Mr. Ben Brock at 434-2635 or Mr. Roy Wood at 434-2650 and they will be happy to assist you.

DRMO

Authorized personnel may retrieve property that is marked for DRMO Facilities only if they are still physically located in Base Supply. For more information, call 434-7233 to review the property or call Stock Control Section at 434-7179 or 434-7198. To check for authorization and Demand Processing Section, call 434-7178 to order the property. All other DRMO processing is done via the Web at www.drms.dla.mil.

Zero Overpricing Program-Incentive Awards

Overpricing is an issue everyone should be working. All personnel are encouraged to participate, and will be rewarded for any tangible savings resulting from their price challenge. Monetary awards will be given in accordance with AFI 38-401, The Air Force Innovative Development Employee Awareness Program. Advice and guidance are available by calling the Customer Service element of Base Supply, located in Building 158, at 434-7178.

Contemporary Movie Showings

Join us at the Columbus AFB Chapel the last Thursday of each month from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for fun, food and fellowship, as we watch a contemporary movie, have dinner and discuss what God has planned for us. Please call the chapel at 434-2500 to sign-up. There is no fee for this class. There is no childcare available.

Schedule as follows:
Sense and Sensibility: April 30

Weight Loss with Wisdom

It's time to make that New Year's resolution to get those unwanted pounds off for

good, but who wants to do it alone? Please join us at the Chapel each Thursday 4:30 p.m. for advise, instruction and prayer for our goals. Lose a little weight with some friends. For more information, please call the Chapel office at 434-2500.

Supply Customer

If you are looking for that special piece of equipment or furniture for your office, your point of contact is the Inspection Section of Base Supply. Inspection maintains the Last Look Area, which has used equipment and furniture turned in from other organizations that no longer have a need for the items. All items in the Last Look Area are available without charge to your organization. For more information, you can contact the Inspection Section at 434-7233 or 434-7234.

Attention All Deployers

The 14th Communications Squadron has a new system which allows you to place "free" telephone calls back home from your deployed location via DSN. You can call every day or once a week; whichever you prefer (allotted time is 3.5 hours a week). Pin numbers are required and can be picked up along with instructions from the Telephone Systems office located in Building 900, Room 9. Please call 434-2020 for additional information.

Do you have a supply problem?

Do you have a supply problem? Do you need a status on an item you ordered? Did you receive the wrong part? The Customer Service Element is the single point of contact requiring assistance on supply related matters. For assistance, you may contact customer service at 434-7178.

Children's culinary arts camp

The Mississippi University for Women Culinary Arts Institute presents Culinary Camp for Kids starting June 1. In the professional setting of MUW's Culinary Arts Institute, your child will have the opportunity to learn and explore the wonderful world of foods through demonstration, lectures, and hands-on work in their kitchen. Classes commence on 1 June and continue throughout the month of June. For more information call: 241-7472.

DAPS Hours change

Effective immediately the Columbus AFB DAPS will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop is open for consignments of household goods, appliances that are in

Tech. Sgt. Brian Sutton connects a supply hose to a water purification unit that will output purified water to support the water needs of the 1,230 residents of Dierks, Ark. The community's only water treatment facility was heavily damaged by a tornado April 9. Sergeant Sutton is a utilities systems management specialist with the 188th Fighter Wing's Civil Engineer Squadron of the Arkansas Air National Guard.



U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. Keith Moore

Airmen provide clean water for stricken Arkansas town

Maj. Keith Moore
Arkansas National Guard

DIERKS, Ark. — Five Arkansas Air National Guard Airmen restored clean water to the Dierks community April 21 following an April 9 tornado that destroyed the town's water treatment plant April 9.

The Airmen from the 188th Fighter Wing's Civil Engineer Squadron helped the small Southwest Arkansas town by using two water treatment units, known as reverse osmosis water purification units, to filter water from any surface source for use as drinking water.

The systems can move about 1,200 gallons per hour to support the daily needs of the community's 1,230 residents.

"On a normal day (before the storm), our system would provide 350 gallons per minute," said Jeremy Stone, the Dierks city engineer. "The Guard's system doesn't move water at that rate, but we have been using only bottled water since the storm, so this will at least restore normal flow and pressure to our town."

Dierks Mayor Terry Mounts praised the professionalism and efficiency of the Guardsmen. "They got here and set right to work," he said. "They said it would be several hours to get set up and start filtering water,

but they got water moving and tested in just under one hour. The city of Dierks is just glad the Arkansas Air Guard has this capability to support our residents."

Mr. Stone said the tornado destroyed the second floor control center of the town's water treatment facility, removing its chlorination system and leaving it without electricity to power the pumps, which bring water to nearby Lake Dierks.

Master Sgt. Kevin Rice, a utilities systems management specialist with the 188th CES, said the team practices using the reverse osmosis water purification system to support its regional training site at it's Fort Smith, Ark., base, but this is the first time the units had been deployed to support a civilian community whose water utilities were down.

"We've utilized these units overseas, and we use them in practice to support our 'bare base' training at home station, but this really makes us feel good when we can utilize the equipment to support a local community," Sergeant Rice said.

Mayor Mounts said the city is requesting aid from state and federal agencies to help get the main plant back on line as quickly as possible, but had no idea how long the Guard may be needed to support the town with clean water.

VA budget adds mental-health services for combat vets

Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The proposed Department of Veterans Affairs funding request will provide more post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury services to combat veterans, as well as other mental-health care and services for wounded warriors, President Barack Obama said April 9.

"The nightmares of war don't always end when our loved ones return home," President Obama said.

"Untold thousands of servicemen and -women returning from Iraq and Afghanistan suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or other serious psychological injury," he said.

The president called the growing incidence of suicide among active-duty servicemembers and returning combat veterans "disturbing."

"Sometimes the deadliest wounds are the ones you cannot see, and we cannot afford to let the unseen wounds go untreated," he said. "And that's why this budget dramatically increases funding for mental-health screening and treatment at all levels."

The proposed budget represents the largest single-year increase in VA funding in three decades.

"All told, we will increase funding by \$25 billion over the next five years," President Obama said.

The president recognized that thousands of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans have suffered from traumatic brain injury, and said the budget will provide improved services for these cognitive injuries.

"Many with TBI have never been evaluated by a physician," he said. "And because such injuries can often have long-term impacts that only show up down the road, this funding will help ensure they received the ongoing care they need."

The budget proposal also will increase the number of Vet Centers and mobile health clinics, expanding access to mental-health care in rural areas, he said. Meanwhile, it also aims to reduce the stig-

ma of seeking care by adding mental-health professionals to educate veterans and their families about their injuries and their options.

In addition to more comprehensive mental-health services, President Obama said the funding request will provide other improvements in the medical care and other benefits veterans receive.

"This budget doesn't just signify increased funding for the VA health-care program," he said. "It significantly expands coverage so that 500,000 more veterans who have previously been denied it will receive it, and it strengthens care and services across a broad range of areas."

The proposed budget also will:

- Invest in better technology to deliver services and benefits to veterans with the quality and efficiency they deserve;
- Provide greater benefits to veterans who are medically retired from service;
- Combat homelessness by safeguarding vulnerable veterans; and
- Ensure the timely adoption of new, comprehensive education benefits that veterans earn through their military service.

President Obama said all Americans "share the shame of 154,000 veterans going homeless on any given night."

His budget request will fund a pilot program for not-for-profit groups to ensure that veterans at risk of losing their homes have a roof over their heads.

"And we will not rest until we reach a day when not one single veteran falls into homelessness," he said.

President Obama also expressed optimism over Senate support for a measure that would provide advanced medical-care funding for veterans.

"The care that our veterans receive should never be hindered by budget delays," President Obama said, adding that the plan he and VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki have advanced will ensure there's no disruption.

"What that means is a timely and predictable flow of funding from year to year, but more importantly, that means better care for our veterans," he said.

good working order, furniture and electronics. Please, no computer equipment. Clothing is accepted as donation items only.

The Thrift Shop is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Consignments are taken up until noon.

School Liaison Officer

The Columbus Air Force Base School Liaison Officer works with local school districts, schools, parents and students on issues related to elementary and secondary education for the children of ALL personnel (civilian, military and contractor) assigned to the installation. As parents of school age children are aware, there are many unique issues our children face as they transition to new schools. The role of the School Liaison Officer is to assist families ensure their children receive the best possible education regardless of where they attend school. For assistance, please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at slo@columbus.af.mil.

CAC Card Replacement

Members can replace their Common Access Card within 60 days of it expiring. All personnel will need to provide the following at the time of replacement: two forms of identification, government ("dot" mil or gov) email address, a six to eight digit personal identification number and an application for a CAC, the appropriate application will be provided to appointment is made. Call 434-2626 or 434-2624 to schedule an appointment.

Testing Hours

The Education Office conducts CLEP/DANTES, CDC, PME, etc. testing on Tuesdays and Thursdays promptly at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Students arriving late will be rescheduled. Testing will be conducted outside of this schedule only when verifiable extreme circumstances exist. Please call 434-2562 or 434-2561 to schedule an exam.

SARC DVDs

The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, located at the Health and Wellness Center entrance of the Fitness Center, has two very educational and school-aged appropriate DVD's available to sign-out and to view with children. Two copies of each DVD will also be available at the Base Library and one copy will be available at the Youth Services. The DVDs are: The Safe Side: Stranger Safety and Internet Safety presented by John Walsh and Julie Clark. Our motto is "Not One More." Let's educate and keep our children safe.

Anti-terrorism Training

Personnel and their families that are traveling on unofficial business outside the continental United States can receive anti-terrorism level one training from Master Sgt. Brandon Enea, 14th Flying Training Wing Antiterrorism Officer. For more information, call him at 434-1260.

MGIB and ROTC

ROTC detachments often fail to provide information to graduates about the Montgomery GI Bill. If this is the case, please come by the Education Office in Building 916 or call them at 434-2562 for MGIB counseling.

Legal Hours

The legal office offers legal assistance on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. by appointment only. Notary and/or power-of-attorney are done as a walk-in during normal business days from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., arriving no later than 3:45p.m. Participants must be eligible for assistance to receive service. For more information, call the base legal office at 434-7030.

Airman's Roll Call

The Air Force puts out a weekly publication call the Airman's Roll Call. The Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams. To view the Airman's Roll Call, visit www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/.

Airman and Family Readiness Center

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790 or email afrc@columbus.af.mil.)

Lunch and Learn

The next Lunch and Learn will be April 24 from noon to 1 p.m. Bring your lunch and come listen to a discussion on supporting children in divorce.

TAP Workshop

A transition assistance program workshop will be held May 5-7 starting at 7:30 a.m. Spouses are encouraged to attend with their sponsor. Please call 434-2790 if you have any questions. If you planning to separate within the next 12 months or retire within 24

months, you should attend this workshop.

Hearts Apart Social

There will be a Hearts Apart social gathering for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. April 28. Information, refreshments, and prizes will be available. Advance registration is required, please call 434-2790.

Bundles of Joy

Bundles of Joy will be held 1 to 3:30 p.m. April 29 and is open to active duty military and/or spouses assigned to CAFB who are pregnant or have a child up to 4 months of age. Info speakers on finances, labor and delivery and infant care will be available. An AFAS program that provides a gift package valued at more than \$65 for ADAF. Advance registration required. Call 434-2855.

Wing Newcomer's Orientation

Newly arrived active duty and civilian personnel may attend the newcomer's orientation April 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

Pre-Deployment Brief

There is a mandatory briefing for active duty personnel who are deploying or going on a remote tour. The brief is held every work day at 9:30 a.m. Spouses are welcome to attend.

Volunteer Recruitment Fair

There will be a Volunteer Recruitment Fair April 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. All volunteers are invited to attend as well as individuals interested in volunteering. There will be representatives from different organizations/agencies to discuss volunteer opportunities. Refreshments and door prizes will be available.

Post-Deployment Brief

This mandatory briefing is for active duty personnel who are returning from deployment or a remote tour are held daily at 1:30 p.m. at the A&FRC. For more information, call 434-2790.

Pre-separation Counseling

This mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation is held daily at 8:30 a.m. May complete up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. This briefing takes approximately 30 minutes. For more information, call 434-2839 or 434-2790.

Budgeting Basics

This event is held every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to noon at Airman & Family Readiness Center. Learn practical ways to tell

your money where to go rather than wonder where it went. For more information, call 434-2790.

AFAS...Air Force People Helping Each Other

Sudden emergency and no cash? It can happen to anyone. Your Air Force Aid Society has assisted Air Force people for 66 years and is there to help you. Call 434-2855 for more information.

Employment Workshop

There is an employment workshop every Wednesday at 1 p.m. Airman and Family Readiness Center. Participants will learn about local and base employment opportunities. For more information, call 434-2790.

Spouse Welcome

A special welcome for new personnel assigned to Columbus AFB is held each Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Magnolia Inn Lobby. For more information, call 434-2790.

AFRC Calendar

Would you like to receive e-mails in your home of up-to-date information on events being held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center? Sign up for Airman and Family Readiness Center electronic calendar. To sign up, send an e-mail to AFRC@columbus.af.mil and ask to be added to the list. This calendar provides great information on things happening at your Airman & Family Readiness Center. For more information, call 434-2631.

Chapel Schedule

Protestant

Sunday:
9 a.m. — Adult Sunday School
10:45 a.m. — Traditional
Worship Service (Children's Church)

All are invited to a fellowship luncheon following the 10:45 a.m. service the fourth Sunday of each month

Catholic

Thursday:
5 p.m. — Choir Practice

Sunday:
3:45 p.m. — Choir Practice
4:30 p.m. — Confession
5:00 p.m. — Mass

Flight Safety: AETC's Weapons School

Maj Tim 'Even' Stevens
49 FTS, Columbus AFB

In the Operational Air Force, the Weapons Officer is at the heart of the squadron. His mission is to teach and lead the squadron in accomplishing the Air Force Mission, to "fly, fight, and win..." He expertly instructs the squadron in the tactics, abilities, and attitude vital to accomplishing whatever task is asked of it. While tactics are the top priority of the Operational Air Force, safety is the principal focus of AETC.

Air Education and Training Command is the first command to touch the life of almost every Air Force member. Specifically, we have the privilege to instruct and the opportunity to influence all new aviators when they are most impressionable. While "patch" wearers impart tactical expertise, the most important value AETC can ingrain in these new warriors is safety. The time will come when they will learn to deliver air superiority, precision engagement, and global attack; but first they must establish a foundation of safety that will carry them through careers in a dangerous world. AETC members owe this critical foundation to the combatant commanders.

Why is safety so vital in the development of these young aviators? According to the Air Force Safety Center, human factors accounted for 67 percent of all mishaps in the last 12 years. Last year, the average cost per HF mishap was \$103 million. Our aging aircraft fleet, and the wear and tear we put on it, will increasingly test our aircrew skills. Furthermore, we do not have enough aircraft in the inventory to sacrifice any in avoidable mishaps. For these reasons, and more, safety must be at the forefront of each new pilot's mind. This is why the 14th Flying Training Wing goal is "zero preventable mishaps."

So how do we go about laying the safety foundation for each of these Airmen? First and foremost, we must create a culture of safety. Individually, this means constantly weighing the cost and benefit of daily actions, both on and off duty, to determine which actions are acceptable. This has been formalized in the ORM process, but, simply put, ask yourself in each situation, "Is the risk worth the reward, and is there a better and safer way?" In order to develop the culture of safety, we must instill the ORM concept into each individual. These principals must be continuously exemplified by Airmen and instructors for students to embrace them. It is not effective to simply talk about safety or make ORM an ancillary training event. Students watch and learn. If we do not "practice what we preach," they will think that ORM and safety are just ideas to which we pay lip service.

Just because safety is made top priority, this does not mean total risk avoidance. Gen. Stephen Lorenz, AETC commander, recently commented the only way to stay perfectly safe is to stop flying.

"We accept the inherent risks of flying to accomplish the mission of producing pilots. Accepting that risk, however, does not relieve us of the responsibility to be proactive," he added.

It is important we do not forget the ORM steps of mitigating risk. Many times, there are obstacles on a training mission. Some days, it is wise to cancel the sortie and rely on the saying, "There is no mission in AETC so important it can't wait until tomorrow."

However, many times we can diminish or avoid the risks we face in order to safely accomplishing the training.

In fact, if we do not place safety as our top priority, we are in danger of not accomplishing AETC's mission. In today's Air Force, we have far too few resources and man-power to waste a single asset. The AF needs every highly qualified Airman we can produce. We can not

let unsafe practices or bad decisions rob combatant commanders of their most important assets. During WWII, we actually lost more pilots in training accidents than in combat. Flight safety has come a long way from those early days, and it must continue this progress, reducing mishap rates, in order to support the war effort.

The other major step in laying the safety foundation, is training new pilots in the fundamentals of flight safety. While AETC instructors expertly teach introductory flying skills, like instrument approaches and close formation, the basics of flight safety are equally important. We need to emphasize abilities that will keep pilots safe throughout their careers. There are many vital safety aspects; we will examine a few here. First, students must understand the key ingredients in executing the job safely are knowledge and attitude. It is crucial to remember many of our regulations and procedures were created at the cost of someone's life. These regulations, which were many times written in blood, are far too important to skim over once and then move on.

Col. Sidney Mayeux, Aviation Safety Division Chief at the AF Safety Center, recently commented on the importance of getting back-to-basics.

"I'm seeing too many (training rule) busts, so I'm hammering TRs and ROE discipline," Colonel Mayeux said.

Each professional must have the knowledge and attitude that will allow him to act appropriately in every situation. We can not afford to learn the same costly lessons twice.

Second, a pilot will face countless in-flight emergencies during his or her career. These EPs, if not handled correctly and decisively, many times lead to reportable mishaps. Again, knowledge of aircraft systems is vital during in-flight emergencies. However, the ability to act calmly in high-pressure situations and to use all available resources to safely recover the aircraft is as crucial. Every pilot must be mentally prepared for these possibilities prior to every sortie. IFEs don't wait until you've studied-up for your check-ride in the simulator.

Third, we must continue to emphasize the wingman culture. William Redmond, AF Deputy Chief of Safety, recently commented about the wingman culture during an interview. He spoke of how the wingman culture has historical precedence and is distinctive to the Air Force. Each new Airmen entering the service should be taught this is not only a flying concept, but is to be lived 24/7. Good wingmen always take care of themselves and those around them.

"That is what I think is a great ethos for us to have," Mr. Redmond said.

If we, in AETC, can ingrain the safety culture and teach the basic safety fundamentals to each new pilot, then we will be well on our way to decreasing the mishap rate in the AF. We will provide highly qualified and safety conscious pilots to the Operational Air Force, ready to be further trained by their Weapons Officers. Ultimately, when these Airmen are employed in combat situations, far more complex and dangerous than anything they've met in pilot training; they will have a solid safety foundation to rely upon.

This is best summarized in the words of the Col. Chris Stricklin, 14th FTW chief of safety.

"It is your choice to accept responsibility, take ownership and ensure every action you perform is as safe as possible. As instructors, it is your duty to instill this in every Airmen you develop," he said.

Two CAFB firemen named best in AETC

**14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs**

Air Education and Training Command officials recently announced that two BLAZE Team members were some of the best in their career fields.

Senior Master Sgt. Russell Eidenschink, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Rick Songer, 14th CES, were named the military fire officer and civilian fire officer (respectively) of the year for AETC in 2008.

The two firedogs will compete in the next level of competition in the 2008 Department of Defense Fire Emergency Services Annual Awards.

The rest of the award winners were as follows:

Military firefighter

Senior Airman Matthew Miller, 12th CES, Randolph AFB, Texas

Civilian firefighter

Michael E. Newbury, 325th CES, Tyndall AFB, Fla.

Small fire department

17th CES, Goodfellow AFB, Texas

Fire prevention program

325th CES, Tyndall AFB



VPP comes to Columbus

2nd Lt. Greg Adam
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

Columbus Air Force Base is set to begin joining numerous other Air Force bases in a program designed to strive for excellence in safety.

The Voluntary Protection Program, developed in 1982 by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, is designed to promote effective worksite safety measures.

The focus of the VPP is on identifying specific means of improvement in occupational safety of the day to day operations here at Columbus AFB. By setting performance based criteria the VPP group will help BLAZE Team members to reduce occupational illness and injuries. Typical VPP worksites have a lost work day incidence rate 50 percent lower than the industry average.

The group coming to evaluate

CAFB arrives April 27th and will be spearheaded by Vance Lineberger, deputy for safety and occupational health for the deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force. The five person group will stay through the week leaving on May 1.

Mr. Lineberger said the leading detriment to excellence is satisfaction with being good. He and his team are here to identify opportunities the BLAZE Team to improve daily safety and health management systems.

Mr. Lineberger said the most important thing to know about the VPP assessment is that they are not here to inspect us. Instead the VPP group is here to evaluate CAFB's current safety culture and offer suggestions on how to improve. The VPP staff is here to show Columbus AFB what we could be doing better in occupational safety. For more information on the VPP visit the website at www.osha.gov/dcspp/vpp.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Lt. Col. Eddie Altizer (left), 43rd Flying Training Squadron T-6 Flight commander, and Lt. Col. Kelly Menozzi (Middle), 48th Flying Training Squadron commander, talk to Vance Lineberger, deputy for safety and occupational health for the deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force, about the Voluntary Protection Program April 14 in the wing conference room.

What has the Air Force Sergeants Association done for you?

Master Sgt. Steven Doll
AFSA Chapter 651 president

Here at Chapter 651 on Columbus AFB I have received that question many times. Let's briefly go into a historical background of what the Air Force Sergeants Association does worldwide and here locally.

AFSA was founded in 1961 to support Air Force Enlisted needs. That remains our primary focus. However, AFSA victories benefit everyone in the Air Force who has ever worn the uniform, who is currently wearing the uniform, or who will wear the uniform in the future. This includes Airman, NCOs, officers and families. In addition, a win for AFSA is a win for any military member in any service anywhere in the world.

The primary purpose of AFSA is to lobby on Capitol Hill to ensure all Airmen receive the highest pay, benefits, and quality of life. These lobbying efforts are critical. The nation

welcomed the 111th Congress into power in January 2009 and AFSA educates Congress on your needs. They explain to each and every one of our 535 Congressional leaders what the price of freedom truly is.

All Air Force personnel are eligible for membership. This includes Airman, NCOs, Officers, retirees and veterans. In addition, spouses and family members of all of these groups are eligible for membership in the AFSA Auxiliary. Each Auxiliary member adds to AFSA's ability to get things done on Capitol Hill at the same level as their military sponsor. Every vote counts.

Now that we have gone over a broad view, let's go into what is happening here with the local community. Our local Chapter has 450 members and they are heavily involved in Habitat for Humanity, donating hundreds of hours yearly to build homes. The local AFJROTC schools benefit from mentorship

along with awards and medals we present every year to distinguished graduates.

We spend roughly \$2500 a year on various base functions to include: Retiree Appreciation Day, Annual Awards Banquet, Quarterly Awards, Dorm Dinners to include Dormsgiving, AFJROTC awards, Highway and Base Cemetery Cleanups, and numerous other functions. All of these functions encapsulate every dynamic on the base from civilian, officer retiree and enlisted.

Did you know we had a Medal of Honor Park on base? Across from the new Fire Department you will find the remnants of this park. On April 21, 1995, the base planted 41 trees as part of Earth Day and to honor two Army Medal of Honor recipients from Mississippi. The park was dedicated to Sgt. John A. Pittman from Carrollton, Mississippi, who received the Medal of Honor for service during the Korean War; and to Pvt. Robert T.

Henry from Greenville, Mississippi, who received the Medal of Honor for gallantry in Germany during World War II.

Through years of severe weather this once prestigious park has been eroded and has nearly disappeared. Sometime in the next two months, AFSA will take the lead on restoring a piece of Columbus heritage by planting more trees and fixing what is damaged to bring back this sacred ground. In order to help pay for the restoration, AFSA will be hosting a four-person scramble golf tournament on May 8 at 12 p.m.

Chapter 651 needs your support and we hope some of your questions have been answered. The stronger AFSA is the better our future AF benefits will be and the more our local community benefits. For membership or general meeting information, please contact Master Sgt. Steve Doll at 434-7132 or Master Sgt. George Evans at 434-7125.

Community Volunteer Opportunity of the Week

There will be a Columbus Community Day of Service tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Friendship Cemetery on 4th Street South. Bring rakes, trash bags and other yard tools and come help clean up this historic location.

Concert at Columbus Fairgrounds

There will be a open-air, fundraiser concert held on April 19 at the Columbus Fairgrounds. Featured bands include Ean Evans, Lynyrd Skynyrd guitarist, and others. Concert begins at 2 p.m.

Market Street Festival

Main Street Columbus will be hosting the

14th Annual Market Street Festival May 1-2. For more information please call 328-6305.

Base Community Council Spring Social

The Base Community Council will hold a spring social on Tuesday, April 21 for members. The informal gathering from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Tapas 509, located at 509 Main Street in

downtown Columbus. Hors d'oeuvres will be served with a pay as you go bar. RSVP to the Link at 328-8390.

For more information about local area events, e-mail AFRC@columbus.af.mil or call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 434-2790.

BARGAIN LINE

Transportation

For sale: 06' Ducati Paul Smart Replica, 1.4k, Limited Edition, Showroom Condition w/ lots of extras, Full Termignoni Exhaust. \$10,750 obo. 501-773-4013.

For sale: Briggs & Stratton boat motor, 5hp, Outboard, Camo Boat Engine. Paid \$1200 new. Used twice, Excellent Condition, Comes w/ Fuel tank and Stand. \$750. 501-773-4013.

For Sale: 2005 Toyota Camry LE, 69K miles, One owner, 100K extended warranty. Excellent condition. Asking \$9700. Please call 356-6944 or 251-1189.

For sale: 2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer LS, SUV, one owner, 57,400 miles, 6 cyl, automatic, AC, Power Seat on Driver Side, Power Steering/ Brakes/Windows, Sun Roof, 2 wheel drive, Towing package. \$12,500. 662-327-1410.

For sale: Red Fiberglass Camper Shell for LWB, Chevrolet or GMC pickup. Like new. Tinted/sliding glass side windows. Double side locks on back lift up window. Paid \$1,000 will sell for \$500. 662-327-1410.

For sale: Four racing rims/tires, 14" five lug, good condition, All four for \$175. Were used for Honda

Civic. Please call 574-9414.
For sale: Electric stove/oven, four burners, \$100, gas water heater, excellent condition, \$100, like new never used trash compactor, \$75. All three for \$250 together. Please call 574-9414.

Saturday Yard Sales

Yard Sale: Lots of Infant/Toddler boy/girl clothes and shoes Women/Men clothes and shoes Saturday April 18th @ 5 A.M. 59 Quince Street (Eastwood Hills).

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one) Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement _____

Name _____

Home Telephone # _____ Duty Telephone # _____
(in case we need more information)

Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:

Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes ☐ No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News ☐ Sports ☐ Photos ☐ Other _____

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.

OSC holds social at club



U.S. Air Force Photo

Members of the Officer's Spouses Club meet and talk during the OSC Social April 14 at the Columbus Club.

Former POW to speak at Class 09-08 graduation

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The graduation speak for Class 09-08 will be Lt. Col. Richard E. "Gene" Smith, Jr., a native of Tunica, Mississippi, and a graduate of Mississippi State University in 1956 with a Degree in Chemical Engineering.

He served in the Air Force from September 1956 through August 1978. His assignments included Air Defense Command and Tactical Air Command, flying a variety of fighter-type aircraft. In July 1967, he was assigned to the 333rd Tactical Fighter Squadron out of Takli Air Force Base, Thailand, and flew F-105Ds. Shot down over Hanoi on his 33rd mission on October 25, 1967, Smith was held as a prisoner of war for five and one-half years and was repatriated March 14, 1973. He was assigned to Columbus Air Force Base as Operations Officer and Commander of the 50th Flying Training Squadron, Assistant Director of Operations, and later, Director of Operations of the 14th Flying Training Wing. He retired from the Air Force in August 1978. Colonel Smith's military awards include: two Silver Stars, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, Legion of Merit, two Air Medals, two Purple Hearts, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Meritorious Service Medal and other military decorations.

After his retirement from the Air Force, Colonel Smith served as the Executive Director of the Golden Triangle Regional Airport. He also served as the National President of the Air Force Association from 1994 to 1996 and Chairman of the Board of the Air Force Association from 1996 to 1998.

His expertise and foresight were recognized nationwide through his appointment by Senator Trent Lott to the National Civil Aviation Review Commission, a commission charged with investigating alternative means of funding and efficiency for the nation's civil aviation programs, to include the Federal Aviation Administration, and to ensure the safety of this nation's airports.

In 1998, Colonel Smith was selected to be a Wingman for Columbus Air Force Base.

Colonel Smith and his wife, Lynn, reside in West Point, Mississippi.

Columbus AFB Team wins environmental award

Renee Howell

14th Civil Engineer Squadron

The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Natural Resource Management Element was awarded the Air Force Civil Engineer Gen. Thomas D. White Pollution Prevention Team Award. This award honors Gen. Thomas D. White, Chief of Staff of the AF from 1957 to 1961, who charted the course for Air Force environmental programs.

The Columbus AFB Pollution Prevention Team is comprised of solid waste, hazardous waste, hazardous materials and storm water managers; who work together at every level to safeguard the base's most valuable natural resources.

The 14th CES/CEAN's award winning package highlighted "green" initiatives and accomplishments from October 2006 through September 2008. These significant accomplishments included implementing an innovative glass recycling program that reused 72,000 pounds of glass as a raw material in the manufacture of cement; utilizing 100 percent biodiesel in all fleet diesel vehicles; and educating over 800 local students during annual



Air Force Photo

(Front row from right to left) Mike Blythe, Renae Fischer, Frank Lockhart, Renee Howell, Kymberly Rigdon; and (back row from right to left) Anthony Duty, Shane Reed, Jody Hall, Kimberly Davis, members of the 14th CES Pollution Prevention Team, recently received the Air Force Civil Engineer Gen. Thomas D. White Pollution Prevention Team Award.

Earth Day events. Columbus AFB continues to lead the state of Mississippi in recycling, diverting over 1.7 million pounds of solid waste from the landfill during 2007-2008.

These accomplishments demonstrate the base's commitment to continual improvement in their environmental performance –

beyond compliance. The P2 team will travel to Washington D.C. in June to receive their award at the AF Environmental Awards Ceremony and will compete for the Department of Defense Pollution Prevention Team Award.



McDonald named CAFB Youth of the Year



Linda Dodson, 14th Force Support Squadron, presents Khadijah McDonald, daughter of Tee McDonald, an employee at the Child Development Center, with the Columbus Air Force Base Youth of the Year Award. The Youth of the Year is a joint Air Force and Boys and Girls Club of America's program. The Youth of the Year winner embodies service, leadership, character and serves as a peer, leader, role model and club spokesperson and was selected by a local panel of judges.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 57 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



AFA Golf Tournament

There will be a POW/MIA golf tournament hosted by the Air Force Association April 25 at the Columbus Country Club. Registration is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and the entry fee is \$50 per person. The format will be a one-day, three-person scramble, with ladies teams and mixed teams welcome. Please call Dwain Stephens at 434-2645 during business hours, and 240-4046 during the evening, for more information.

GATR

(Continued from Page 1) completing Basic Military Training and technical training; he was stationed with the 100th Communications Squadron, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England.

Following his time in England, he was stationed here at Columbus Air Force Base as a ground radio maintenance journeyman with 14th Communications Squadron.

"He (Sergeant Melendez) displayed his professionalism," said Maj. Leo Lawson, 14th CS com-

mander. "He greatly affected the Airmen under his leadership ... and set the example for others to follow.

"Even as we dedicate this building to him, we will continue to honor him by continuing to strive for excellence."

Sergeant Melendez's wife, Mi'chele Cetto, and his two sons, Adrian and Gabriel, attended the event and joined Colonel Watkins in unveiling the memorial plaque.

"Thank you for bringing hope to your troops and for remembering them," said Ms. Cetto.

SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

Airman field-tests modified PT uniform in Iraq

Staff Sgt. John Gordinier
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — An Airman here was selected to field-test the Air Force's modified physical training uniform while deployed here to provide feedback to Air Force leaders at the end of the testing process.

Senior Airman James Debiase, a 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron emergency manager, was asked to field-test the modified PT uniform, and after wearing the uniform for five days now is very impressed with the changes thus far.

"I can describe the new uniform with one word: comfortable," Airman Debiase said. "The uniform is made

from a much lighter material. It is more flexible, and it breathes better.

"When I start sweating, the new uniform seems to absorb the sweat better than our current PT uniform, and it doesn't weigh down as much either," said the native Glastonbury, Conn., deployed from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. "The new pants and coat are also more breathable, and they don't make the, 'swish, swish, swish' sound when you walk or run."

Overall, Airmen here notice the modified uniform and are quick to ask questions and touch the new fabric.

"The first thing people notice is the difference in material," Airman Debiase said. "When they get up close, they notice the lighter and more comfortable material. Second, they notice the PT uniform doesn't make the swishing sound when I move. Third, they notice my shorts are longer. I have pockets for keys, wallet or an MP3 player. I have received a lot of good feedback from curious Airmen.

"Another great quality about the coat and pants is that it is still water-

proof," Airman Debiase added. "Yesterday (April 12), it rained for the first time since I received the uniform, and the water just beaded off the coat and pants with ease."

Another change in the uniform is the sizing.

"With the normal PT gear, I had to buy a large-sized shirt with XXL- or XXXL-sized shorts to fit me properly," Airman Debiase said. "This modified uniform is a large; every item is large — pants, coat, shirt and shorts — and it fits me perfectly."

So far, Airman Debiase said he hasn't found a problem with the uniform yet, and he is going to report the pluses and minuses of the uniform to Air Force leaders at the end of the month. However, he will be wearing the modified PT uniform for the remainder of his deployment.

"I am really excited and thankful for this opportunity," he said. "It's not every day you get the chance to participate in something that can make a difference and a change throughout the entire Air Force."

Sports Shorts

Fitness Classes: The Fitness Center offers fitness classes. Spin classes are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays beginning at 7 a.m. Cardio kick boxing classes are Mondays and Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and aerobics is offered Saturdays at 9 a.m. For more information, call the Fitness Center at 434-2772.

Lunch, Bowl Special: Receive two free games of bowling from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the purchase of a combo meal during lunch.

Cosmic Bowling: Cosmic bowling is every Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Cost is \$2 per game. The night is complete with black lights, loud music, strobe lights and bowling!

Ladies golf outing: The Whispering Pines Golf Course is offering this special afternoon just for the ladies from 2 to 5 p.m. today. Cost is \$5 plus greens fees and includes a nine-hole scramble. Register at the pro shop by noon Thursday. For more information, call 434-7932.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Lionel Castellano

Senior Airman James Debiase goes for a run to try out the Air Force's modified physical training uniform under consideration to replace the current PT uniform April 13 at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. Airman Debiase was selected to field-test the PT uniform while deployed here from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, and to provide feedback to leadership at the end of April. Airman Debiase is a 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron emergency manager, and his hometown is Glastonbury, Conn.

<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thur</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat/Sun</u>
20 Volunteer Appreciation Week (4/20 - 4/24)	21 Holocaust Remembrance Day Newcomers Briefing BCC Social, 5:30 p.m. @ Tapas 509	22 Lunch Bunch @ Club Class 10-01 Track Select, 5 p.m. @ Club	23 Quarterly Awards Luncheon, 11 a.m. @ Club Earth/Arbor Day @ 9:30 a.m.	24 Class 09-08 Graduation 50th FTS Auditorium Dedication, 12:26 p.m.	25/26 POW/MIA Golf Tournament
27	28	29 Lunch Bunch @ Club, 11 a.m.	30 Enlisted Promotions @ 3:30 p.m.	1 Class 09-09 Assignment Night	2/3 Experience Rider Course @ SAC Alert

Long Term Events

May 5-7 - Maj. Gen Feest Visit
May 8 - AFSA Golf Tournament/scholarship dinner

May 9-10 - Auto Cross
May 10 - Mother's Day
May 12 -Newcomers Briefing
May 13 -Class 10-02 Track Select
May 14 -Asian Pacific American Heritage Lunch

Spotlight: Arts and Crafts Center

Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

BLAZE Team members looking for a gift or a Saturday afternoon project for their children should look no further than the main gate.

The Columbus Air Force Base Arts and Crafts Center offers services ranging from their self-help woodshop or auto skills shop, to a laser engraver that can etch whatever you'd like into the material of your choice.

"If you can dream of something, or we can, we can probably help you

do it," said Chris Bowers, Arts and Crafts Center manager. "My staff and I are here for our customers. If we can in any way accommodate someone – we will. We will do whatever it takes to please our customers."

Mrs. Bowers said not only does the Arts and Crafts Center offer a plethora of services, but they offer them at two-thirds the price of comparable off-base services. In addition, there is no tax on the services they offer.

One of the more unique abilities the Arts and Crafts Center has, according to Mrs. Bowers, is a laser-engraver. She said it can engrave anything from words to photos on materials including wood, glass, metal,

acrylic and even some forms of stone. She said as long as it's under 24" x 32" in size, it can be engraved.

"There is nothing too unusual," she said. "Just ask, we can always try."

The Arts and Crafts Center also holds classes for both adults and children looking to craft something of their own.

Once a month they offer a class for children and parents to get together and work on a craft project. For those parents who aren't able to come during that time, or are just looking for a project for their children to play with on the weekend, the center also sells premade art kits. The kits have everything a child needs to complete the enclosed project.

For parents looking for projects themselves, Mrs. Bowers said the Arts and Crafts Center also holds Home Décor Classes. The classes include the price of the projects materials and, by the end of it; customers go home with a completed project.

The center also features a custom framing shop and the ability to craft custom shadowboxes for retirements and such, she said.

They also offer the ability to make custom t-shirts, custom matts for

photos and paintings, awards and trophies and a number of other things.

When individuals picture the standard base arts and crafts center, it's a fair bet they imagine a wood shop with tools and sawdust both in ready supply. The Columbus Air Force Base center features one, and according to center management, anyone able to get on base legally may use the wood shop.

Mrs. Bowers said usually the only supplies people need to bring is the wood itself, the wood shop has a variety of saws and other wood working tools, and parts such as nails and screws.

According to Mrs. Bowers, the Auto Skills Center is also a part of the Arts and Crafts Center, and is located right next door.

The Auto Skills Center features both self-help and full-service auto care functions, according to its manager Jody McGuff. He said the shop can handle most general vehicle maintenance, including brakes, tires and some detail services.

To contact the Arts and Crafts Center please call 434-7835 and to contact the Auto Skills Shop please call 434-7842.

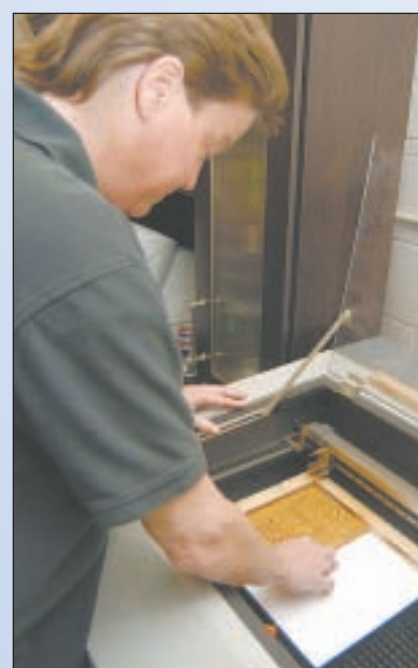


Photo by Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Nikole Moffet, a designer and gift specialist with the Arts and Crafts Center, prepares a wooden plaque for laser engraving April 15.

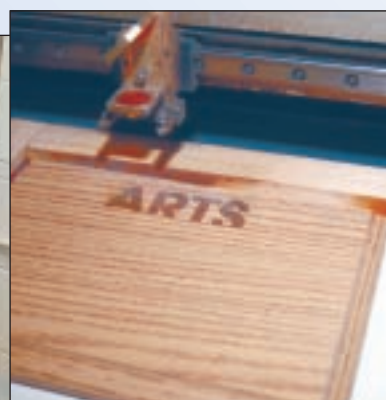


Photo by Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
The Arts and Crafts Center laser engraver burns the words "Arts and Crafts Center" into a wooden plaque April 15. The device is capable of etching words or pictures into wood, glass, metal, acrylic and some stone.



Photo by Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Jana Hall, an employee with the 14th Force Support Squadron, uses an Arts and Crafts Center saw on a piece of wood April 15.



Photo by Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
(Left) Russ Perkins, Auto Skills Shop assistant manager, and Donovan Leon, an Auto Skills Shop technician, work on a vehicle April 15 at the Auto Skills Shop.



Photo by Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Roberta Brock, framer and graduation specialist with the Arts and Crafts Center uses a computer controlled mat cutter April 15.



Photo by Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
Chan Johnson, Arts and Crafts Center assistant manager, assembles a going away gift April 15 at the Arts and Crafts Center.